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A MAN OF THE PEOPLE.

Col Jay L. Torrey's Availability for the Vice Presidential Nomination—The Embodiment of the Great Moral Principles for Which Republicanism Stands—Can Solidify the West and Cope With Bryan on the Stump

Whom will the Philadelphia Convention nominate for Vice-President of the United States?

To whose hands will be intrusted the proud duty of joining with William McKinley in carrying the Republican banner on to victory?

As the time draws nearer for the gathering of the clans these questions grow in moment and the more urgently press for solution. It is the opinion of those best qualified to judge that waiting until the eleventh hour for sentiment to so crystallize about a candidate as to create a stampede in his favor by adroitly solved oratory has its dangers, and it is recalled that few nominations have been fortunate where the "plume" went outside of the gentlemen whose merits had been well canvassed in advance. The Vice-Presidential office is a high one, and the utmost prudence should be exercised in making a choice. Since he stands but one remove from the Chief Magistracy of the nation, he should be, in all respects, the kind of man we should feel willing to have serve us as President. Since the incumbency of the late Garret A. Hobart there has developed in the public mind a keener recognition of the dignity and importance attaching to the post, and what was once contemptuously termed the "threshold of oblivion" is now deemed an honor for which the best may properly strive.

Most good timber has been submitted for examination and set aside, and the situation has so clarified that but few really available figures remain. Of these the tide seems to be setting in with irresistible force for Col. Jay L. Torrey, incidentally of Wyoming, but who in the truest sense, by reason of national achievements and broad public services, might be classified as "from the United States at large."

To go into detailed biography of Col. Torrey would be a useless multiplication of words. His life as an industrious citizen and volunteer soldier is familiar to all Americans who keep in touch with the currents that govern modern thought and action. At the bar he was honest, conscientious and painstaking. As the author of the Torrey bankruptcy bill his name became familiar to the debtors and creditors of the whole country. In the recent war for humanity against the atrocities of Spanish rule in Cuba, Col. Torrey bore a conspicuous and useful part. He was the "Original Rough Rider," and it is through his active instrumentality that the bill authorizing three special regiments of these rugged western cavalymen became a law. As the head of the Second Volunteer Cavalry (Torrey's Rough Riders), his record shines resplendent. No imitator he—Torrey's idea of utilizing the men of the plains for military service was in accordance with his own experience in the rough school of life, where he has learned self-reliance and self-control. It was characteristic of the self-made man who has succeeded by native ability and grit. It is safe to say that no Colonel in the Spanish-American war gave harder work or more personal attention to the wants of his men than Torrey. This was not by fits and starts, but daytime and nighttime, week days, Sundays and holidays. He possessed that rare genius



COL. JAY L. TORREY,

A Popular Candidate for the Vice-Presidential Nomination—A Typical American and a Man of the People.

for work that enabled him to accomplish great results without appearance of weary or strain. His mental equipoise, perennial good cheer and quiet industry were the characteristics most noted by his associates. Col. Torrey not only exercised the greatest care and efficiency in providing for his men during the time the regiment was in service, but has been untiring since it was mustered out, and has exerted himself to see that the bodies of the deceased were tenderly placed in the hands of those who loved them.

The hour calls for the nomination of a plain man as Vice-President. The people want a plain platform, and the men placed upon it whose character will be a guarantee of its fulfillment. They want plain words from the lips and a respect for plain duty in the heart. At Mr. McKinley's side they want a Vice-President who is a strong man from among the plain people instead of a weak man whose ideas of right have been emasculated by the effete atmosphere of machine politics; not a man who confined his patriotism to "hot air" during the recent war, but one who put on a uniform; not a man from Wall street, but from the West. The man named thus far who fills this bill and who perfectly answers the demand of the times is Jay L. Torrey. The West will name the next President and Vice-President, and the party will be wise to put forth its best energies in that section, and call to the front the two most potential factors that can be found—McKinley and Tor-

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BIG MASONS MEET

Bruce Grit Draws two Pen Pictures of Barber Shops Conducted by Colored and White Men—A Pointer for Men who Hope to Succeed and Keep Pace with the Superior Race.

Albany, New York, Special.—The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York was held in Odd Fellows' Hall, 89th street, New York City, Wednesday and Thursday June 6th and 7th, and was well attended. The session was called to order at 8 p. m. by M. W. Grand Master E. V. O. Eato. Besides the G. M. the following Grand Officers were present: D. G. M. Ethelbert Evans, Troy, N. Y.; S. G. W. Thos. G. Stewart, Brooklyn, N. Y.; J. G. W. Henry A. Spencer, Rochester, N. Y.; G. B. Benj. Myers, and G. T. M. L. Hunter, N. Y.

The afternoon session was devoted to routine business. The reports from subordinate lodges and district deputies were received at the evening session, showing a membership of about one thousand, and the craft to be in a prosperous condition.

A noticeable feature of the Wednesday night session was the presence of three P. G. M.'s, W. O. H. Curtis, M. B. Irving and E. R. Spaulding.

The following were elected Grand Officers for the ensuing year: M. W. G. M. E. V. O. Eato, Brooklyn N. Y.; D. G. M. Thos. G. Stewart, Brooklyn, N. Y.; S. G. W. H. A. Spencer, Rochester, N. Y.; J. G. W. Chas. S. Robbins, Norwich, G. B. Benj. Myers, and G. T. M. L. Hunter, New York City. On Thursday evening a handsome banner was presented with appropriate exercises and this closed one of the most successful communications in the quarter of a century's history of the Grand Lodge.

All the new officers elected are men of exceptional high character, and standing in the Masonic world. The promotion of Mr. Henry A. Spencer as S. G. W. was a worthy recognition of a progressive and capable man. Mr. Spencer is a very modest and retiring gentleman, and will make a thoroughly efficient officer of this time honored body.

Those who are obliged to patronize the Negro barber shop because of their inability or disinclination to shave themselves or cut their own hair, will recognize some of the pictures I am going to draw descriptive of one of these Negro enterprises.

The first picture to be thrown on the canvas will be that of a tenebrous parlor in a Western city conducted by a white man for white patrons, his employees are Negroes. The room is large, light, airy and scrupulously clean, his employees are attired in white jackets, clean white shirts dark pantaloons, are cleanly shaven and have their beards nicely polished and their finger nails free from surplus nail matter. If any of them are drinking men they have removed the odor of John Barley Corn from their breath, and cleaned their teeth to prevent giving regular and

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